

#### GREG COX

## SUPERVISOR, FIRST DISTRICT San Diego County Board of Supervisors

February 24, 2009

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman California State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13th Floor Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

RE: Support for the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail, San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Imperial Beach, CA

As Supervisor for the First District in the County of San Diego, I am pleased to express my strong support for the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge's proposal to implement the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail. The trail, which would be constructed to the north of the Bayshore Bikeway between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Imperial Beach, will provide a dedicated path for pedestrian use.

Currently, the Bayshore Bikeway is the only designated access route along the southern edge of San Diego Bay for bicyclists, walkers, and birdwatchers. The Bayside Birding and Walking Trail will facilitate the separation of bicycle and pedestrian activity, allowing improved and safer outdoor experiences for both groups of users. Pedestrians in particular will be able to enjoy the sights and sounds of the bay and its array of bird life without the need to constantly be aware of oncoming bicycle traffic. The project will also benefit sensitive coastal salt marsh vegetation and help promote ecotourism within the City of Imperial Beach and California overall.

Therefore, I urge the State Coastal Conservancy to provide the necessary funding for this important project. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Supervisor, First District



#### CHERYL COX MAYOR

February 25, 2009

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman California State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13th Floor Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Mr. Bosco:

RE: Support for the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail,

San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Imperial Beach, CA

The cities of San Diego's South Bay are linked in many ways. One of these linkages is in our philosophical goals to make walkable, safe streets a priority. Pedestrians and bicyclists are welcome in all four cities: Coronado, Imperial Beach, National City, and in my city of Chula Vista. I am pleased to support San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge's proposal to implement the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail north of the Bayshore Bikeway between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Imperial Beach

Our cities strive to put pedestrian issues on the public policy agenda. We want to get children and adults on their feet and into riding bicycles by making bicycle paths safer and more appealing. The Bayside Birding and Walking Trail's dedicated path for pedestrians will contribute to making walkers and bicyclists more physically active and healthier.

San Diego's Bayshore Bikeway is the only designated access route along the southern edge of San Diego Bay for bicyclists, walkers, and birdwatchers. The Bayside Birding and Walking Trail will separate bicycle and pedestrian activity, allowing improved and safer outdoor experiences for both. The sights and sounds of the bay and its bird life can be enjoyed in peace. The project will also benefit sensitive coastal salt marsh vegetation and help promote ecotourism in Imperial Beach.

I urge the State Coastal Conservancy to provide the necessary funding for the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail. Thank you for considering this worthy endeavor.

Respectfully.

Mayor

Exhibit 5: Project Letters



February 26, 2009

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman California State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13th Floor Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

RE: Support for the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail, San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Imperial Beach, CA

National City continues to enjoy multiple benefits from the Bayshore Bikeway. As such, we enthusiastically support the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge's proposal to implement the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail.

The Bayshore Bikeway is the only designated access route along the southern edge of San Diego Bay for bicyclists, walkers, and birdwatchers. The project will also benefit sensitive coastal salt marsh vegetation and help promote ecotourism within the City of Imperial Beach and California overall.

Therefore, on behalf of this City Council, I urge the State Coastal Conservancy to provide the necessary funding for this beneficial project. Thank you for your efforts to enhance the quality of life for National City and our neighbors.

Sincerely,

Ron Morrison

Mayor

cc: City Council

Supervisor Greg Cox

Chris Zapata, City Manager

RECEIVED

MAR 0 2 2009

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.

Mayor Ron Morrison 1243 National City Boulevard, National City, CA 91950-4301 619/336-4233 Fax 619/336-4239 www.nationalcityca.gov





### CITY OF CORONADO

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR 1825 STRAND WAY CORONADO, CA 92118 CASEY TANAKA MAYOR (619) 522-7322

March 2, 2009

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman California State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13th Floor Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

RE: Support for the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail, San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Imperial Beach, California

The City of Coronado supports the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge's proposal to implement the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail. The trail, which would be constructed to the north of the Bayshore Bikeway between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Imperial Beach, will provide a dedicated path for pedestrian use.

Currently, the Bayshore Bikeway is the only designated access route along the southern edge of San Diego Bay for bicyclists, walkers, and birdwatchers. The Bayside Birding and Walking Trail will facilitate the separation of bicycle and pedestrian activity, allowing improved and safer outdoor experiences for both groups of users. Pedestrians in particular will be able to enjoy the sights and sounds of the bay and its array of bird life without the need to constantly be aware of oncoming bicycle traffic. The project will also benefit sensitive coastal salt marsh vegetation and help promote ecotourism within the San Diego region and California overall.

Therefore, I urge the State Coastal Conservancy to provide the necessary funding for this important project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Casey Tanaka

Mayor

cc:

City Council

Mark Ochenduszko, City Manager

Greg Cox, Supervisor, County of San Diego

Andy Yuen, United States Fish and Wildlife Service





# City of Imperial Beach, California

www.cityofib.com

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

March 4, 2009

Douglas Bosco, Chair State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13th Floor Oakland, CA 94612

SUBJECT: Support of the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail, San Diego Bay National

Wildlife Refuge, Imperial Beach, CA

Dear Mr. Bosco:

The Bayshore Bikeway Working Group encourages the California Coastal Conservancy's support of the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge's proposal to implement the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail immediately to the north of the Bayshore Bikeway between 7th Street and 10th Street in Imperial Beach. As the group responsible for the implementation of the Bayshore Bikeway, a 26-mile bicycle route that provides bicycle access around much of San Diego Bay, we support proposals that will improve the function of the bikeway and increase the quality of the bike riding experience. The Bayside Birding and Walking Trail, in addition to supporting habitat protection and providing public access to important coastal resources, will also provide a designated route for pedestrians along the bay that does not require sharing access with bicyclist. Currently, the bikeway is the only designated access route along the south end of the bay for residents and visitors to bike, walk, and bird watch. This situation has the potential for conflicts between bicycle riders and walkers, conflicts that can be addressed through the construction of a dedicated pedestrian path. The Bayshore Bikeway Working Group encourages the California Coastal Conservancy to approve the Refuge's request for funding to assist in the implementation of this project.

Sincerely,

James C. January Mayor

City of Imperial Beach



401 B Street, Suite 800 San Diego, CA 92101-4231 (619) 699-1900 Fax (619) 699-1905 www.sandag.org

MEMBER AGENCIES

Cities of

Carlsbad Chula Vista

Coronado

Del Mar El Cajon

Encinitas Escondido

La Mesa

Imperial Beach

Lemon Grove

National City

Oceanside

San Diego San Marcos

Solana Beach Vista

Powav

Santee

and

February 24, 2009

3000800

Mr. Douglas Bosco, Chairman California State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13th Floor Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Chairman Bosco:

SUBJECT: Support of the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail, San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Imperial Beach, CA

The Bayshore Bikeway Working Group encourages the California Coastal Conservancy's support of the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge's proposal to implement the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail. This trail would be immediately to the north of the Bayshore Bikeway between 7<sup>th</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Imperial Beach. As the group responsible for the implementation of the Bayshore Bikeway, a 24-mile bicycle route that provides bicycle access around San Diego Bay, we support proposals that will improve the function of the bikeway and increase the quality of the bike riding experience.

The Bayside Birding and Walking Trail, in addition to supporting habitat protection and providing public access to important coastal resources, will also provide a dedicated route for pedestrians along the bay that does not require sharing access with bicyclists. Currently, the bikeway is the only designated access route along the south end of the bay for residents and visitors to bike, walk, and bird watch. This situation has the potential for conflicts between bicycle riders and walkers. These conflicts can be addressed through the construction of a dedicated pedestrian path. The Bayshore Bikeway Working Group encourages the California Coastal Conservancy to approve the Refuge's request for funding to assist in the implementation of this project.

Imperial County

California Department of Transportation

ADVISORY MEMBERS

County of San Diego

Metropolitan Transit System

North County Transit District

United States Department of Defense

> San Diego Unified Port District

San Diego County Water Authority

Southern California Tribal Chairmen's Association

Mexico

SUPERVISOR GREG COX

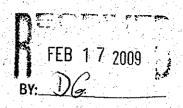
Chairman, Bayshore Bikeway Working Group

SVA/cda

Sincerely,

Exhibit 5: Project Letters





February 12, 2009

Douglas Bosco, Chair State Coastal Conservancy 1330 Broadway, 13th Floor Oakland, CA 94612

RE: Approval of Funds for the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail, San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Imperial Beach, CA

Dear Mr. Bosco.

The Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association (SWIA) is pleased to support the San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge's proposal to implement the Bayside Birding and Walking Trail. This proposal, which involves both habitat restoration and public trail construction, will restore sensitive coastal salt marsh vegetation damaged by inappropriate access onto Refuge lands, as well as minimize the potential for future damage to these resources by providing a designated pathway for pedestrians. The trail and associated observation areas will also provide residents and visitors with new opportunities to observe and enjoy the array of migratory shorebirds, nesting seabirds, and waterfowl that visit south San Diego Bay throughout the year.

SWIA has been working to support and implement projects that benefit wetlands since 1979. As an organization dedicated to the education in and preservation, restoration, and acquisition of wetlands, SWIA encourages the Conservancy and the Fish and Wildlife Service to continue to support efforts in South San Diego Bay that support coastal wetland protection and restoration, while also providing the public with opportunities to experience and take ownership of the precious resources protected within our natural environment.

We encourage the California Coastal Conservancy to approve the Refuge's request for funding to assist in the implementation of this project.

Sincerely,

Muchael M. McCoy

President